

HOUSE BILL 2898  
By Brooks (Shelby)

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,  
relative to election officials.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-4-106, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection (e):

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply in any metropolitan area having more than one hundred thousand (100,000) registered voters. In such areas, the provisions of Section 2 of this act shall apply.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 4, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section \_\_\_\_.

(a) In any metropolitan area having more than one hundred thousand (100,000) registered voters, the county election commission shall create a pool of those persons who submit their names on a form created by the county election commission to perform any of the following functions on election day:

- (1) Officer of elections;
- (2) Judge;
- (3) Voting machine operator;
- (4) Precinct registrar;
- (5) Assistant precinct registrar; and
- (6) Inspector.

(b) The names shall be submitted on a form developed by the county election commission for each job-specific function together with a resume indicating the person's

ability or training to perform such a function and also indicating the person's political party preference. The county election commission may reject any name if the members of the county election commission of the political party indicated by such person are of the opinion that:

- (1) Such person is incompetent to hold elections;
- (2) Such person failed to serve as directed in previous elections; or
- (3) Such person is otherwise, in their opinion, unfit to serve in the election.

(c)

(1) The county election commission shall develop a procedure to randomly select a sufficient number of persons to fill each position as well as a sufficient number of alternates to fill each position in case of a vacancy on election day, taking into account the political party preference of each person in order to ensure, as nearly as practicable, that no more than one half (1/2) of election officials at a polling place and no more than one half (1/2) of the whole number of inspectors may be members of the same political party.

(2) In the event that only one (1) political party elects to hold a primary election as authorized under § 2-13-203, then only members of that political party who call the primary shall be selected to serve at the polls as election officials in accordance with the selection procedure developed pursuant to subdivision (c) (1).

(d) At least thirty (30) days prior to each election, the county election commission shall draw the names in accordance with the procedure developed pursuant to subsection (c) and notify each person so selected.

(e)

(1) Within thirty (30) days before each election the county election commission shall hold a meeting for the purpose of instructing election officials and alternates selected pursuant to subsection (d) as to their duties during an election. Such instructional material shall be standardized and developed by the state election coordinator. The material shall be job specific and designed to address the different functions and duties required to be performed by the various election officials.

(2) Each election official and alternate selected pursuant to subsection (d) shall be issued a certificate indicating the official or alternate attended the meeting and successfully completed the training relating to the duties to be performed by each such official or alternate. The certificate for each person working at the polling place on election day shall be posted at a conspicuous place at the entrance to the polling place. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 2-4-108(c), no person shall be permitted to serve at the polling place as an election official or alternate unless a certificate has been issued to the person.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.